

Strong Two-Fisted Yankee Soldiers Needed for "Roughneck" War

By MARTIN GREEN, Staff Correspondent of The Evening World

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FINAL
EDITION

PRICE TWO CENTS.

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NEW YORK, FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1918.

20 PAGES

PRICE TWO CENTS.

GAS ATTACK ON U. S. SOLDIERS AVENGED; GERMAN WORKS BLOWN UP BY BIG GUNS

U. S. IS FIGHTING A NATION OF 'ROUGHNECKS' AND MUST USE THEIR OWN WEAPONS

Strong, Two-Fisted, Red-Blooded Soldiers Required—War Can't Be Won in Debating Societies or Chambers of Commerce.

By Martin Green.

(Special Staff Correspondent of The Evening World.)
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SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE, Feb. 7.

AFTER ten days of association with and observation of various units of our army in the field in France I find that the American people here but a faint conception of the part we are playing in this war, of the difficulties that confront our armed forces, of the obstacles that must be overcome in the transmission of supplies over the longest line of communications in the history of warfare or of the spirit of patriotism and self-sacrifice that actuates the men who have travelled overseas to fight to make the world safe for democracy, and incidentally to preserve the institutions and benefits of the Republic of the United States for generations to come.

This is not written in a spirit of pessimism or disappointment; in fact, I am inspired to patriotic enthusiasm by what I have seen and heard—and I haven't begun to cover the field of our activities as yet. I am impelled to make this article a sort of address to the Americans who read what I write because I am the latest arrival from the United States in the field of newspaper correspondents. My impressions are fresh.

Just prior to my departure from New York, a month ago, I took a long railroad trip which brought me into contact with hundreds of civilians and military men from nearly all the States of the Union. Furthermore, I am pretty well up on the sentiments and ideas of the people of the City of New York about the war. I brought these ideas and sentiments with me to France and England, and I find they are not in harmony with actual facts and conditions.

"ROUGHNECK" WAR: STRONG TWO-FISTED MEN NEEDED.
Careful balancing of what I know about public opinion in the United States and the current and probable status of the western front establishes to my satisfaction that the American people expect too much too quickly. In my opinion I am not unsupported by Americans in France who are in close touch with conditions attending the war on both sides of the North Atlantic.

In the first place, it doesn't take long to discover, from contact with actualities in France, that this is a **ROUGHNECK** war. We are up against a nation of roughnecks, and our men must be just as rough and tough as their enemies.

I do not mean that we should attempt to match the German atrocities or brutality outside of actual combat, but on the field of battle we should be, and must be, prepared to meet the German army with its own weapons. This is no question of points.

It follows, naturally, in the wake of this incontrovertible fact that the war for the United States must be fought by strong, two-fisted, red-blooded soldiers, men who are not afraid of the enemy, who are not afraid of the gas, who are not afraid of the machine gun, who are not afraid of the big gun, who are not afraid of the trench, who are not afraid of the mud, who are not afraid of the rain, who are not afraid of the cold, who are not afraid of the heat, who are not afraid of the hunger, who are not afraid of the thirst, who are not afraid of the fatigue, who are not afraid of the death.

PERSHING'S CHIEF AIDE,
WHO IS BACK FROM FRONT
WITH PRAISE OF U. S. MEN



BERLIN REPORTS THE SEIZURE OF 47 RUSSIAN VESSELS

Pripet Flotilla of River Craft
Captured, Says the
War Office.

BERLIN, March 1 (via London).—German troops, continuing their advance in Russia, have reached the Dniester River, the War Office announces.

"At Mozyr (146 miles southeast of Minsk) we captured the Pripet flotilla of six armored boats, 35 motor-boats and six hospital boats," the statement says.

The German advance in the Dniester was made through northern Ukraine. The Germans also have reached the line Kiev-Smerinka near Pastop and Kasatin.

German Resumes Advance Into Russia at Three Points.

LONDON, March 1.—Despatches received by the Exchange Telegraph Company, filed in Petrograd at 6 P. M. Thursday, indicate that the German advance into Russia has been resumed.

A forward movement by the invaders of some thirty-five miles beyond Polotsk, midway between Dvinsk and Vitebsk, is reported in these advices. The Germans pushing on despite the fact that the railway has been blown up and the stores of provisions in their way destroyed.

German troops are also reported to be moving slowly toward Luga from Pskov, at which place they are said to have concentrated a division of infantry supported by cavalry and heavy and light artillery.

The Germans likewise are declared to be moving on Belz, eighty miles northeast of Dvinsk.

The Russian peace delegation at Brest-Litovsk were informed that hostilities would cease only when the peace treaty was signed, says an official statement. Three days were allowed for the negotiations, beginning to-day.

'U. S. TROOPS ON FIRING LINE A CREDIT TO THE COUNTRY; WELL AND FIT,' SAYS MARCH

Pershing's Right Hand Man,
Back to Become Chief of
Staff, Praises Our Boys.

AN ATLANTIC PORT, March 1.—"American troops on the fighting line in France are now so well trained they can handle themselves with entire credit to their country."

This was the professional report on our men of the expeditionary force under Pershing brought back to this country to-day by Major Gen. Peyton C. March, Pershing's right hand man, who returns to assume the high duties of Chief of Staff of the army at Washington.

Gen. March spoke freely and in disregard of the stricter rules of censorship—rules which he said he considered over-stringent and which he would modify. He gave the first real official summary from the lips of a fighting man of high rank of the morale and temper of our troops in France that this country has had since the first troopship sailed.

Gen. March was accompanied on the trip from an English port by Major Gen. S. D. Sturgis, commandant of Camp Pike, in Colorado, and Major Gen. P. H. French, commandant of the camp at Macon, Ga., and their respective staffs numbering about sixty officers. The latter two commanders have been on the battle line for a period of instruction.

Gen. March at first said he was at a loss how to talk without treading on the toes of the censorship.

"But," he continued more seriously, "this muzzling censorship is most lamentable and I am going to advocate a change. American officers in France—in fact, all officers of the Allied armies there—can't quite understand the censorship."

"Now, I know of no gentler way of conducting a war of this magnitude. No army can expect not to have some one hurt and, while we must show the greatest consideration for the relatives of the men 'over there,' the public must know the facts."

"The health of the troops is splendid. There is less illness, less discontent and in fact, generally better morale among the men in France than there was at the Mexican border, where I was stationed before going abroad."

"The spirit of all the armies is splendid—splendid! Our men are generally happy and contented; in fact, a great many take it as a joke. The majority of them have never been out of the United States before—many not even outside their own State."

The general explained that this circumstance gave a great advantage in upbuilding the morale of the Pershing force, for, as everything was new and interesting, the men did not have time to grow moody or discontented.

"They are all keen about this game of fighting," he continued, "and they go to their training with great enthusiasm. Shortly before leaving France I inspected all the troops on our line and found them extraordinarily cheerful and contented, despite the mud and German shells, and anxiously awaiting the chance to render a good account of themselves."

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BREITUNG HEIRESS DIVORCES HERO OF 'LOVE IN A GARDEN'



Millionaire's Daughter Gets Reno Decree Against Father's Former Employee.

The romance of a New York millionaire's daughter and her father's former gardener has come to an end with the granting of a divorce in Reno, Nev., to Mrs. Frederick Kleist, according to word received here to-day.

Mrs. Kleist was Miss Juliette Breitung, society girl and daughter of E. N. Breitung, prominent banker. Her runaway marriage in 1915 to Kleist was followed by more sensational charges and counter charges and plots and intrigues than the average novel or movie thriller.

The marriage was denied by the Breitung family for months, even after copies of the marriage certificate were produced. Finally, they admitted the couple had been married in Grace Church here, after eloping from Miss Breitung's father's estate in Marquette, Mich., and young Kleist went to work for his father-in-law. It was to be a case of "love in a garden."

Early in 1915, Kleist sued Mr. and Mrs. Breitung for \$250,000, charging alienation of his wife's affections. Kleist said it was because of the ardent wooing of Miss Breitung that they were wedded. He produced many love letters from her in which she urged that they elope. The case was dropped and a mistrial was declared.

10 U. S. SOLDIERS TAKEN PRISONER, CLAIM OF BERLIN

French Official Report Says
the Germans Were Defeated
in Hand to Hand Battle.

BERLIN (via London), March 1.—"Near Chavignon our storm troops captured ten American prisoners," the Berlin War Office announced to-day.

[Chavignon is a small town in the Alsace sector, about ten miles northeast of Soissons. The German lines in this section lay through extensive stone quarries, which have been strongly fortified.]

PARIS, March 1.—Following is the text of the French War Office report: "In the region east of Chavignon (the point where the Germans claim to have taken ten American prisoners) at 8 o'clock last night the Germans, after a heavy bombardment, hurled two columns against the French lines. A violent hand to hand conflict followed, terminating to the advantage of the French. The Germans were thrown back after having suffered heavy losses. Prisoners remained in the hands of the French."

"Another attempt against small French posts southwest of Cor Eny achieved no greater success."

"During the night there was active artillery fighting in the region of Craonne between the Mielto and the Alsace and in the sector of Ithelms. A hospital in Rheims for civilians was shelled systematically with incendiary bombs. The building was burned to the ground."

"In the Champagne during the night a series of bombardments was directed against the French first lines, particularly in the region of the heights on both sides of Buipies and the region of Hütte du Mesnil (where the American artillery is located). This morning the enemy made a spirited attack against our new positions southwest of Hütte du Mesnil. It was broken up by the French fire, and the assaults were driven back except at one point, where they gained a footing in an advanced trench element. At the same time a strong German raid east of Stuppen was repulsed completely."

"In the Argonne French patrols took prisoners. In the Vosges there was rather heavy artillery fighting late in the night in the sectors of Haguenau and Remenauville. Everywhere else the night was calm."

"On Tuesday a French aerial squadron carried out a photographic reconnaissance as far as Mariembourg, more than eighty kilometers (50 miles) behind the German lines."

TORPEDOED SHIP ESCAPES.

British Freighter Manhattan, Hit by Torpedo, Makes Port.

AN ATLANTIC PORT, March 1.—The British steamship Manhattan, of 4904 tons gross, was torpedoed, but remained afloat while in company of warships and other American and British merchantmen, a few weeks ago, it was announced to-day by the owners, the Atlantic Transport Company. The Manhattan put back to a British port, damaged her cargo and is being repaired.

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SHELLS OF PERSHING GUNS SMASH THE GAS BATTERIES IN GERMAN FRONT TRENCH

Photographs Taken From Airplanes
Disclose Exact Position of Minenwerfers—Many Killed as German Works Are Blown Up—Six Americans Have Died From Gas Attacks

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Thursday, Feb. 28 (by the Associated Press).—Swift retribution has fallen upon the German batteries which this week bombarded the American trenches northwest of Toul with gas shells. American heavy artillery concentrated its fire on the German minenwerfer batteries for half an hour to-day and obliterated the position.

Many direct hits with high explosive shells were made by the American gunners. Timbers were thrown high in the air and explosions, probably of enemy ammunition and gas, resulted. The ground about the German batteries was churned upside down and if there were any German soldiers there they certainly suffered death.

Thus far six men have died from the effects of the German gas shells. More than eighty are in hospital suffering from gas poisoning. Most of these cases are slight and only one man is reported to be in a grave condition.

ABDICATION OF KING IS BERLIN'S PRICE OF PEACE WITH ROUMANIA

Count Czernin Presents Demand
That Prince William Receive
the Crown.

LONDON, March 1.—THE peace terms submitted to King Ferdinand of Roumania by Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Minister, included the King's abdication in favor of his brother, Prince William, or the taking of a referendum in Roumania regarding his successor, according to a Berlin despatch transmitted by the Exchange Telegraph correspondent at Amsterdam to-day.

A few more additional gas cases developed to-day among the men who many hours after the gas shells had exploded went to work in the gased area where the fumes, like water, remained in shell holes and other depressions in the earth.

U. S. AMMUNITION TRAIN HIT AT DEAD MAN'S POINT.

While an empty American ammunition train was halted at a place called Dead Man's Point a stray enemy shell dropped nearby and killed two men, two horses who had run away and wounded four men.

In a certain town behind the front a German shell exploded near the door leading to a telephone dugout, blocking the passageway. The operators in the dugout, although in considerable danger, continued to work the important line, at the same time calling for help. Soldiers were sent to the dugout and the passageway reopened.

The American artillery has kept up a constant harassing and destructive fire on many vital enemy points, such as crossroads and towns. German working parties were dispersed effectively, and once the 76 directed vigorously on a number of Germans in a first line trench, quickly blowing in the entire trench system.

GERMANS FAIL IN EFFORTS TO GET REVENGE.

Later this afternoon the Germans attempted to retaliate for the destruction of the minenwerfer batteries. They bombarded the American heavy artillery with their biggest guns, but their shelling had little effect.

The American sector is now an ocean of mud and constant work is

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